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A Family for Every Child in our Lifetime

As we move through this vibrant festive season, we are reminded of the joy that comes from connection, gratitude and giving. Across communities, we have seen families celebrating together, neighbours supporting one another and people opening their hearts to share hope and light.

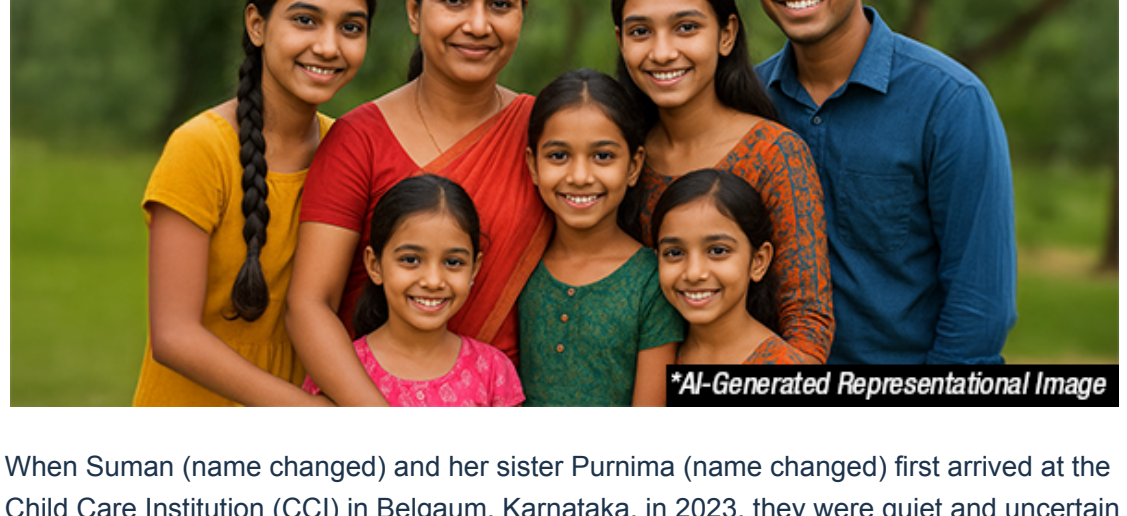
At Miracle Foundation India, this spirit mirrors our mission: ensuring every child grows up surrounded by love, stability and a sense of belonging in a family. This October, we witnessed powerful moments of change across our work. Families were reunited, frontline social workers continued their tireless efforts, and communities stepped forward to protect and nurture children. Our partnerships with the government and supporters like you helped turn these hopes into reality.

The months ahead offer another opportunity to spread joy and positive change. I invite you to embrace the season of giving in whatever way feels true to you. Support someone around you, lift a community, or contribute to a cause close to your heart. And if Miracle is one of those causes, we will be deeply grateful to have your continued support in helping children thrive in families.

Thank you for being part of this journey and for believing in a world where every child grows up safe, loved and at home.

Warm regards,  
Kusum Mohapatra  
CEO & Regional Director  
Miracle Foundation India

### Transforming Children’s Lives through Family Strengthening



When Suman (name changed) and her sister Purnima (name changed) first arrived at the Child Care Institution (CCI) in Belgaum, Karnataka, in 2023, they were quiet and uncertain about what the future held. The sisters had lost their father, and their mother, overwhelmed with grief and struggling to care for five children, could no longer meet their daily needs.

In their small slum neighborhood, life had become a series of impossible choices , food or school, medicine or rent. At the CCI, things slowly began to change. The girls started going to school regularly, made friends, and joined extracurricular activities. Yet, beneath that progress was a quiet wish , to go back home to their mother and siblings.

When the CCI team began collaborating with the Miracle Foundation India team, guided by the principle of prioritizing family-based care, Suman and Purnima were identified for the process. Since they had only recently been admitted, there was still time to carefully prepare both the sisters and their mother for a safe and successful reunification. This was not a quick decision but a careful process , one that brought together many hands and hearts. The team worked with the mother through counselling sessions, helping her regain confidence and plan for her children’s return.

With guidance from the team and support from a local partner, she was able to access vital government schemes , *widow pension*, *labour card*, and *rag pickers’ ID* , along with essential documents such as income and caste certificates. Her children received school materials to continue their education, while her eldest son got help to strengthen his small business of renting utensils for community events, giving the family a steady financial foothold.

Slowly, stability replaced uncertainty. In 2025, Suman and Purnima were ready to return home. The day of their reintegration was filled with tears, laughter, and relief , a mother embracing her daughters, a family made whole again.

Today, Suman and Purnima, along with their two sisters, attend school regularly and take part in community activities with confidence. Their mother continues to work hard, balancing her cleaning jobs with the joy of raising her children under one roof. This story reflects the power of collaboration, what’s possible when families, communities, CCIs, government programs, and organizations come together , proving that with compassion and collaboration, families can rebuild lives grounded in love, stability, and hope.

### Celebrating Deepak Kumar



At Miracle Foundation India, as we strive towards enabling children to stay with their families and reach their full potential, we honor the incredible social workforce that makes it all possible. This month, we are pleased to celebrate the commitment and impact of Deepak Kumar, a Social Worker at the District Child Protection Unit (DCPU), Rohtas (Sasaram), Bihar, who has been a driving force in strengthening child protection systems in his district.

His association with Miracle Foundation India began in 2019 through the Master Trainers’ Programme, where he gained in-depth knowledge of family strengthening, gatekeeping mechanisms, while also deepening his understanding of the effective preparation of Social Investigation Reports (SIRs) (*detailed background reports about each child’s situation and family*) and Individual Care Plans (ICPs) (*personalized care and support plans made for each child*). The training, he shares, enhanced his understanding of how systematic documentation and family-based approaches can transform child care practices at the district level.

Building on these learnings, Deepak and his team have been initiating impactful changes in Rohtas. He organises meetings with the Child Care Institution (CCI) staff to ensure standardization of the documentation process and enhance the case management process for children. Under his leadership, the DCPU has successfully prepared around 650 SIRs and 60 ICPs for *Children in Need of Care and Protection* (CNCP), those who are in the CCI or have been identified as being at risk due to reasons such as loss of parents, neglect, abuse, difficult family circumstances or involved in child labour. This effort has helped the team understand each child’s situation better and plan the right steps for their care and reintegration. These initiatives have significantly strengthened the gatekeeping mechanism and improved decision-making for such children in his district.

Among his notable achievements, Deepak has helped in successfully reintegrating around 5 children who had been living in a CCI in his district for several years, reuniting them with their families. Through family counselling, close coordination with local authorities, and continuous follow-up, he ensured that these children could return to a safe and supportive home environment. His proactive efforts in promoting family-based alternative care, linking children with government schemes, and championing community participation have made a lasting impact in Rohtas. Deepak continues to work with unwavering commitment toward ensuring that every child grows up in a loving and secure family.

### From Care to Leadership: Youth Ambassadors Making an Impact



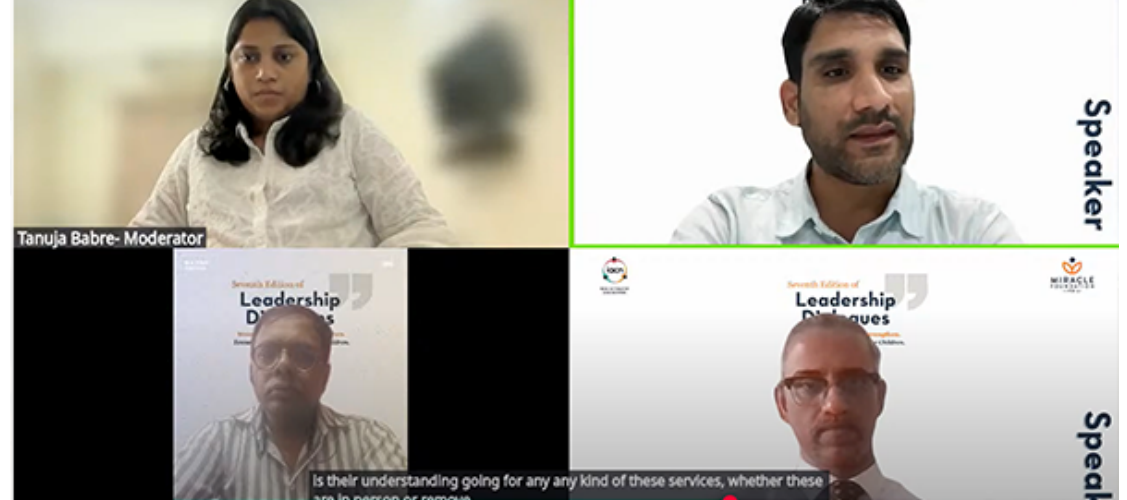
Miracle Foundation India’s Youth Ambassadors, drawn from Child Care Institutions (CCIs) and local communities, play a vital role in raising awareness about the importance of a family for every child and driving meaningful impact. This month, we celebrate Ritesh Pandit Paikarav from Birajdar Nagar, Pune, Maharashtra, who joined our Youth Ambassadors Program in 2023.

Currently pursuing his B.Com, Ritesh balances academics with his passion for cricket, photography, video editing, and contributing to social causes in his community. He became a Youth Ambassador with Miracle Foundation India, motivated by the challenges he saw in his community and determined to ensure every child in his community has access to education, safety, and the chance to grow with dignity.

He has attended workshops on child rights, youth leadership, and child protection; created awareness videos on child rights, child-friendly police stations, environmental conservation, and community development; conducted interactive capacity-building sessions for children (aged 14+) on child rights, gender equality, environmental awareness, prevention of child marriage and life skills; and led community initiatives with the Municipal Corporation and local leaders, resulting in improvements in street lighting, water supply, drainage, and waste management in his community.

Looking ahead, Ritesh aims to develop his skills to support youth leadership, provide career guidance and awareness programs, and empower young people to create stronger, self-reliant communities.

### Seventh Leadership Dialogue: Mental Health and Psychosocial Support for Families and Children



The seventh edition of the Leadership Dialogues, held on September 25, 2025, in collaboration with *India Alternative Care Network*, was centred on the theme, ‘*Mental Health and Psychosocial Support for Families and Children*’. The discussion highlighted policies, schemes, and innovations that enhance access to Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (MHPSS) for families, explored strategies for mainstreaming trauma-informed care in family and child welfare services, and identified actionable solutions to ensure affordable, accessible, and culturally relevant support for all families.

The panel, moderated by Ms Tanuja Babre, Mental Health and Psychosocial Support, UNICEF, featured esteemed speakers - Mr Deepak Tugnawat, Director of Projects, Sangath Bhopal Hub; Dr Shiva Prakash Srinivasan, Head Clinical Services and Training, Department of Youth Mental Health, SCARF and Mr B.S. Nabi, Child Welfare Committee Member, Hyderabad, Telangana state. The full recording of this engaging dialogue can be viewed [here](#)s.

### Jharkhand’s First Child Welfare and Protection Committee Formed and Trained in East Singhbhum Under Mission Vatsalya



Miracle Foundation India, in collaboration with Bal Kalyan Sangh, supported a historic step in Jharkhand’s child protection journey on September 18, 2025, with the formation of the state’s first-ever Child Welfare and Protection Committee (CW&PC) in East Singhbhum district in alignment with Mission Vatsalya.

Following its establishment, a one-day training program was held in Boram Block, organised by the District Administration with support from both organisations, to equip committee members with the knowledge and skills needed to strengthen the child protection system. 71 Participants, including Panchayat representatives, Anganwadi workers, teachers, volunteers, and young leaders, received training on identifying child-related cases, understanding national and international child protection laws, and fulfilling their roles and responsibilities as per Mission Vatsalya guidelines. The training also highlighted the importance of the Gram Panchayat Development Plan (GPDP) in creating child-friendly Panchayats, enabling communities to prioritise education, health, nutrition, safety, and participation for children.

Emphasising collective responsibility, the Block Development Officer, Mr. Kiku Mahto, noted that active engagement from all stakeholders is crucial to combat child marriage, child labour, and abuse, setting a strong precedent for child protection across the state. This initiative marks a significant step toward creating safer, more supportive communities for every child in Jharkhand.

### Donor Testimonial



“I am truly grateful to Yamuna Menon for introducing me to Miracle Foundation [India] and its remarkable and impactful work being done for the upliftment of children from amongst the most vulnerable socio economic segments of society. It’s a critical contribution to Nation-building as children represent the future. Thank you Yamuna, once again, for providing this wonderful channel to give back to Society. Best wishes.”

- Dr Harish Pillai

### Resource Links

- Ministry of Women and Child Development and Ministry of Education release Guidelines for Co-location of Anganwadi Centres with Schools
- IACN Quarterly: Issue 19
- Adoption at decadal high in India, Maharashtra tops list accounting for 20% of total count
- Clarification Issued: Eligibility for Foster Care Placement
- Ministry of Women and Child Development - Annual Report for the year 2024-25

Have feedback on this monthly update?

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\*Please note that all photographs and stories here have been published only after obtaining the due informed consent.

